

IN THE CLAIMS

Pursuant to 37 CFR §121(c), the claim listing, including the text of the claims, will serve to replace all prior versions of the claims, in the application.

Claims 1 through 25 are pending in this application.

Please amend claims 1, 13, 15 and 25, cancel claims 23 and 24 without prejudice or disclaimer, and add new claims 26 and 27 as follows:

1 1. (Currently Amended) A conveyor-technology device for processing printed
2 products, comprising:

3 [[with]] a guide means which is spatially curved and has an essentially
4 helically designed section ; and

5 a conveyor means movable along the guide means for conveying printed
6 products which are fed by way of feed conveyors, as well as with said guide
7 means having a holding means which serve for the temporary fixing of serves to
8 temporarily fix the printed products in a manner such that these at least in
9 regions may be conveyed against the effect of gravity,

10 wherein the guide means is spatially curved and has an essentially
11 helically designed section said helically designed section is a rail or
12 channel having an entirely hollow interior unsupported by a drum
13 structure.

1 2. (Original) A conveyor-technology device according to claim 1, wherein the
2 feed conveyors are arranged in the region of the helical section of the guide means.

1 3. (Previously Presented) A conveyor-technology device according to claim 2,
2 wherein the feed conveyors are arranged essentially perpendicular to an axis A of the
3 helical section.

1 4. (Previously Presented) A conveyor-technology device according to claim 2,
2 wherein the helical section consists of several, equal sections.

1 5. (Previously Presented) A conveyor-technology device according to claim 1,
2 wherein the feed conveyors are arranged in several parallel planes.

1 6. (Previously Presented) A conveyor-technology device according to claim 1,
2 wherein the guide means in the region of the feed conveyors is designed in a straight,
3 convex or concave manner.

1 7. (Previously Presented) A conveyor-technology device according to claim 1,
2 wherein the ends of the helical section are connected to one another via a return.

1 8. (Previously Presented) A conveyor-technology device according to claim 7,
2 wherein the return is arranged within or outside the helical section.

1 9. (Previously Presented) A conveyor-technology device according to claim 1,
2 wherein an extraction device is present.

1 10. (Previously Presented) A conveyor-technology device according to claim 1,
2 wherein the guide means comprises at least one switch which serves for the active
3 connection of further guide means or for coupling an external device.

1 11. (Previously Presented) A conveyor-technology device according to claim 1,
2 wherein at least one conveyor member is arranged along the guide means, which serves
3 for driving the conveyor means along the whole guide means or along a section of the
4 guide means.

1 12. (Previously Presented) A conveyor-technology device according to claim 1,
2 wherein the conveyor means along the guide means have a constant or changeable
3 distance.

1 13. (Currently Amended) A conveyor-technology device according to claim 1,
2 wherein the conveyor means are actively connected to one another[[],].

1 14. (Previously Presented) A conveyor-technology device according to claim 1,
2 wherein the guide means is a guide channel with a longitudinally running opening
3 which serves for guiding a bearing means arranged in the inside.

1 15. (Currently Amended) A conveyor-technology device according to claim 14,
2 wherein the guide channel has an essentially C-shaped cross section[[],].

1 16. (Previously Presented) A conveyor-technology device according to claim 1,
2 wherein the guide means is a guide rail which serves for guiding a conveyor means
3 along a guide surface arranged at the outside.

1 17. (Previously Presented) A conveyor-technology device according to claim 1,
2 wherein the conveyor means is rotatable about a first and/or about a second axis.

1 18. (Previously Presented) A conveyor-technology device according to claim 1,
2 wherein the conveyor means comprises a saddle for gathering printed products.

1 19. (Previously Presented) A conveyor-technology device according to claim 1,
2 wherein the conveyor means comprises a separating plate which serves for laterally
3 guiding the printed products.

1 20. (Previously Presented) A conveyor-technology device according to claim 1,
2 wherein the conveyor means comprises a rim for collating printed products.

1 21. (Previously Presented) A conveyor-technology device according to claim 1,
2 wherein the conveyor means comprises a holding means which serves for the temporary
3 fixing of printed products in a manner such that these may be conveyed against gravity.

1 22. (Previously Presented) A conveyor-technology device according to claim 21,
2 wherein the holding means in the opened condition have a funnel effect, which supports
3 the collection of printed products.

1 23. (Canceled)

1 24. (Canceled)

1 25. (Currently Amended) A conveyor-technology device for processing printed
2 products, comprising:

3 a guide formed as rails or channels, that is spatially curved and has an essentially
4 helically curved section, with the helically curved section of the guide means being
5 entirely hollow inside and unsupported by a drum structure;

6 a conveyor movable along the guide means for conveying printed products which
7 are fed by way of feed conveyors; and

8 a plurality of holders means which serve ~~for the temporary fixing of temporarily~~
9 fix printed products in a manner such that these printed products at least in regions may
10 be conveyed against the effect of gravity.

1 26. (New) A method for processing printed products, the method comprising the
2 steps of:

3 feeding printed products to a plurality of conveying conveyor means by means of
4 feed conveyors;

5 temporary fixing said printed products by means of holding means functionally
6 connected to the conveyor means such that printed products are conveyable against the
7 effect of gravity and such that the printed products remain in their position relative to
8 their dedicated conveyor means during the conveying process;

9 conveying the conveyor means along a spatially curved guide with an essentially
10 helical section to an active region of at least one processing station;

11 processing the printed products at the least one processing station.

1 27. (New) A method according to claim 26, wherein the conveyor means at least
2 in regions is rotated spatially about an axis by at least 180° and thereafter is led past by
3 at least one processing station and subsequently removed from the conveyor means.